

MINUTES OF THE VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL

September 25, 2007

Sheriff Deputy Greg Ewing called the meeting to order at 5:04 P.M.

Councilman Tim Curley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Darrick Scott called for a moment of silence for the passing of Enrico Garcia Jr.

Ms. Kylissa Miller, Chief Deputy Auditor, took roll call and all council members were present.

The chair declared a quorum.

Public Comments. Linda Plew, a West Terre Haute resident, voiced her concerns about the stray animal problem in West Terre Haute. She attended a town board meeting requesting action regarding the situation and was told to go to the County Council to express her concerns. Mr. Darrick Scott spoke with Commissioner Judy Anderson who explained that Deputy Shaw would pick up the animals once the animals have been contained. Traps have now been set to aid in this effort. Also, Mr. Scott has discussed with City Councilman Norman Loudermilk the idea of forming a committee to address the dog problems in the city of Terre Haute as well as throughout the Vigo County. He will mention including a West Terre Haute Town Board member to Mr. Loudermilk.

The Council will make phone calls and do what they can in an effort to help with the situation, however, it is not an issue for the Council, it is infact an issue for the West Terre Haute Town Board.

Communication from elected officials of the County. There were none.

Communications from other officials or agencies. Dr. Stan Buchanan from Indiana State University presented his study regarding the comparison of the number of Vigo County Government employees per office versus other counties in Indiana with comparable populations. See Appendix B for the complete study information and results.

Mr. Darrick Scott wanted to stress the fact that the results of this study will not result in employee cuts. The Council is working toward decreasing the workforce throughout the county through attrition or retirement, not firing. The Council will meet with department heads in an effort to work as a team in accomplishing this goal. This is a way for the Council to address salaries. An increase in salaries may be possible in the future once the workforce numbers are down.

Reports from standing Committees.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:

Amend Vigo County 2007 Salary Ordinance. Mr. Tim Curley, Personnel Committee Chair, explained the Committee would like the full Council to consider amending Section 17 of the Vigo County 2007 Salary Ordinance to include Communication Specialists and part-time, temporary or seasonal positions.

Resolution 2007-7. Mr. Tim Curley, Personnel Committee Chair, explained that the Council had previously approved two Deputy Prosecutors for the Prosecutor's Office. After this approval, and before the positions were filled, the Vigo County 2007 Salary Ordinance was amended disallowing any open positions to be filled. Mr. Rob Roberts, Deputy Prosecutor, explained other open positions affected by the hiring freeze also include a Trial Deputy Prosecutor in the Prosecutor's Office, an Investigator in Adult Protective Services, and a Criminal Deputy Prosecutor and Deputy Prosecutor – City Court in Infraction Deferral. Mr. Curley explained the request is strictly to unfreeze these positions because of the Ordinance; the positions were already there, they are not new positions and will not require any new monies.

ANNUAL BUDGET COMMITTEE:

Mr. Mark Bird, Annual Budget Committee Chair, thanked all who helped in preparing the 2008 Budget. Mr. Brad Anderson attended most of the budget hearings and feels the Budget Committee did a great job. He explained the difficulty in cutting \$3 million from a budget. The committee spent many hours sorting through information to determine where cuts could be made. Preparing the budget takes a lot of time and information.

Reading of the 2008 Budget. Mr. James Bramble, Vigo County Auditor, read the 2008 Budget.

Adoption of the 2008 Budget. President Darrick Scott announced each fund with the budget amount. The detailed 2008 Budget amounts are attached on Appendix A.

Reports from select committees. There were none.

Ordinances relating to appropriations.

Resolution for Re-Allocation of Existing Appropriations 2007-13. Resolution is being sent back to the Budget Committee for further discussion.

Honorary Resolution. There were none.

Resolutions relating to fiscal policies of the Council. There were none.

First reading by summary reference of proposed ordinances and resolutions. President Scott assigned Request of Council for the October 23, 2007 meeting to committee for further review.

Mr. Scott asked for any comments from the Council.

Mr. Mike Morris praised Mr. Mark Bird, Annual Budget Chair, on conducting the budget meetings adequately and recessing them at a reasonable time, even though that meant more meeting days.

Ms. Kathy Miller thanked the other Annual Budget Committee members on making the process run smoothly.

Mr. Mark Bird thanked all who helped in the budget process.

Mr. Darrick Scott thanked Mr. Bird and his committee and everyone else involved.

Appointments. There were none.

Adjournment. Ms. Kathy Miller made motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mark Bird seconds the motion. Meeting is adjourned at 6:19 P.M.

MOTIONS

September 25, 2007

Amendment to Vigo County Salary Ordinance 2007. Mr. Brad Anderson made motion to adopt the ordinance. Mr. Tim Curley seconds the motion. Ms. Kylissa Miller, Chief Deputy Auditor, took roll call. All members voting aye, motion passes, ordinance is adopted as amended.

Resolution 2007-7. Mr. Tim Curley made motion to adopt the ordinance. Ms. Kathy Miller seconds the motion. Ms. Kylissa Miller, Chief Deputy Auditor, took roll call. All members voting aye, motion passes, resolution is adopted.

Adoption of 2008 Annual Budget. See Appendix A for motion details.

Adjournment. Ms. Kathy Miller made motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mark Bird seconds the motion.